

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 06-225)

In the Application of:)	
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Russell Vaughan Meddes et al)	Examiner: James S. Bergin
)	
Serial No. 10/575,021)	
)	Group Art Unit: 3641
Filed: April 7, 2006)	
)	Conf. No. 7051
Title: Improvements In And Relating To Perforators))	

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REPLY TO THE NOVEMBER 23, 2009
RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

This is a Reply to the November 23, 2009 Restriction Requirement for the above-identified patent application.

Claims 1, 10-23, 25 and 27-32 are pending in the application.

I. THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT TRAVERSE

The examiner's restriction requirement is traversed because the currently pending claims all possess a single inventive concept. i.e., common special technical features that are unique to the claimed invention. In particular, claim 1 is amended above to direct it to a "liner". As a result, independent claim 1 and all remaining claims, by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1, share at least the common special technical feature of "a liner" that includes a first portion and a second portion, the first and second portions comprising different ratios of filler to matrix".

The examiner suggested that DE3424867 anticipated claim 1. However, there is absolutely no disclosure in DE342867 of a liner that includes the special technical feature recited above. For at least this reason DE342867 does not destroy the unity of invention and all pending claims must, therefore, be examined together.

II. THE PROVISIONAL ELECTIONS

The Applicant provisionally elects to continue with the examination of claims 1, 10-18 and 29-32 directed to the Group I invention, namely a liner.

The Applicant further elects the following species for examination purposes:

- The species of claim 15 wherein the filler is a flake.
- The species of claim 32 wherein the filler is a metallic material.

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